

# SHEFFIELD EAGLES



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SUNDAY 28TH APRIL - 3.00PM

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# CHAIRMAN CHAT

**Good afternoon, it gives me great pleasure to welcome to the Olympic Legacy Park, the home of Sheffield Eagles Rugby League Football club, Halifax RLFC together with their Chairman their directors, backroom staff, players and of course all their spectators who have made the trip down from Halifax to Sheffield for this Championship clash.**



Let us not fall in the trap of thinking that because of the gap in the positions, today's game will be anything but an easy win it will be a hard fought game by a well-coached team who are now looking to start climbing up the table second and only two points difference between the teams.

Let us remember last time we played Halifax at the OLP, they went away with the spoils with an emphatic victory.

What an Easter weekend for the Sheffield Eagles, firstly Toulouse Olympique on Good Friday and a great display by with a great win. I think Toulouse Olympique underestimated our team and their defence. Then to follow that with an away game at Rochdale where once again our defence was brilliant to come away with the spoils.

I have just attended a meeting with the RFL to discuss the upcoming Summer Bash; it was a good meeting going through the weekend with all the clubs involved from the arrival of the teams then the arrival of the spectators and all that that entails.

But it made me realise how near we are to summer and the Weekend. Can I remind you to get your tickets for the weekend or the day through the club shop or on the telephone as each ticket assist the club and as we are now monitored and all your purchases are a great help.

I would like to mention the OLP and where we are up to with regard to the facilities at the ground. At present the ground is in a transitional period regarding the ownership.

The ownership is now being transferred from the Sheffield Council to the Scarborough Group. Once all the legalities have been satisfied the Scarborough Group will commence construction of a 3000 seater stand which will have all the requirements for a sports arena integral to its construction, i.e. changing rooms, dining rooms, bars, toilets etc.

We as a tenant have to, at present, until the new stand is completed, manage our match days with hired temporary facilities.

This is a fact and there is no alternative.

I must express my thanks to all the fans for their patience and I must also thank the staff at the Scarborough Group and Sheffield United for creating this stadium.

I would like to request that all our supporters remind all the supporters who since we have been out of the City have stopped attending our games that we need them back and we would love to see them all back supporting and cheering on the Eagles.

Can I thank all the volunteers for everything they do for the club, the loyal band of spectators and if you know anyone who wishes to help, get involved or wants to come along to enjoy what is the greatest team game in the world, please encourage them?

Enjoy the game  
Very Best Regards  
Chairman - Chris Noble MBE



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# TUBBY TALK

**Welcome back to the OLP for today's visit of Halifax.**

We have enjoyed a very successful Easter double-header after victories over Toulouse and Rochdale, and the quick turnaround of games continue as we welcome Halifax to the Steel City for what is sure to be another really tough game.

I was absolutely thrilled with the performance here last time out against Toulouse. For me they are the best team in the competition, and it was obvious that they would be operating at the top end of this division before the start of the campaign. They had been on a great run prior to the game, which included a comfortable victory over Toronto, and I'm sure they were everyone's favourites to maintain their winning run prior to kick-off.

We didn't have the option of dual-reg, so we gave some of the youngsters an opportunity, and they played a part in what was a terrific performance and result. To beat a team like Toulouse is impressive, to do it in the style we did, was special.

I said after the Toulouse game that it would be nothing if we did not back it up against Rochdale, and again the boys rose to the challenge to produce another high-scoring victory. We came under a lot of heat in that first 30 minutes, but I thought we showed a great defensive attitude to restrict them to just one try during in what was a period of dominance for the home side.

I thought we rode the storm, and once they showed signs of starting to tire, we were ruthless with our chances at the back end of the first-half. We carried the



momentum forward into the second-half, and we showed our class with some of the tries. Overall, to nail almost 100 points over Easter was some achievement, I was delighted with the boys.

Halifax are always tough to beat, and I know we face a real stern challenge today, but the lads should take confidence from our previous two performances, as we look to maintain the standards which have been set.

I am really pleased to see the likes of Rory Dixon, Blake Broadbent and Sonny Esslemont really come to the fore over Easter, whilst I also thought that Shaun Pick produced his best display in a while against Toulouse.

It is great to see the competition, and it gives me a welcome headache for selection ahead of today's game.

Thanks again for all the magnificent support. Enjoy the game today.

Head Coach - Mark Aston



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# COMMERCIAL CORNER

**Good Afternoon and welcome back to the OLP. I would like to start by welcoming the Directors, players, staff and Fans from Halifax to The OLP this afternoon.**

Just looking back to the game vs Toulouse on Good Friday, I would like to thank Brian Gormley and his guests where were our Man of the Match sponsors for the game. You support as always is very much appreciated.

I wrote in the last programme about branding and how this works on kits. This week I would like to discuss the age only and highly debatable topic of Social Media.

Social Media is the online word of mouth machine that allows us to drive perceptions and aid interest in this club and our sponsors.

It is important we get this right and, thanks to Dan Fowler and Liam, supported by images from Alex Coleman, we do a pretty good job of this. We have around 11500 Twitter followers, nearly 1400 on Instagram and heading up 7000 on Facebook.

Not only is this a great way to engage with the Fans and pass on information, but it is also perfect for engaging our sponsors with potential new business. The more potential sponsors I meet with, more and more the first question they ask is around Social Media and



our engagement.

This shows that there is both a direct correlation between the fans and the sponsors as we as an opportunity for both parties. I would ask everyone to share, like, follow and recommend us on Social Media so we can grow this and attract more sponsors to The Eagles.

I am proud to work for the club and be part of it and not afraid to talk to

anyone about The Eagles and Rugby League in general, whether that be face to face or online.

Leading on from this, I have just returned from holiday in The Dominican Republic.

Whilst there I met a lovely Canadian couple from Toronto who went to Wolfpack game last year.

They knew all about our club and followed the league with interest. Shows the reach of our sport and how it is growing. Safe to say they are now Eagles fans as well!

As always, anyone who is interested in sponsorship, advertising, hospitality or generally partnering with the Eagles, please get in touch as we cater to all needs.

Enjoy the game!

Commercial Director - Mark Hannigan





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# FROM THE OFFICE

**I said in my programme what a difference a year makes when talking about the complete change in performances on the pitch.**

I think this is also apt when discussing the weather! Easter Monday in 2018 I, along with a handful of dedicated supporters were clearing the the Olympic Legacy Park of snow to ensure our match against Batley could go ahead.

12 months later we were basking in the sunshine at the Crown Oil Arena in Rochdale as the boys put in a great display to defeat the Hornets to make it a double over Easter.

To back-up on the Monday after playing on the Good Friday is tough for the players and their bodies but especially after what I believe was the best performance to date when we defeated Toulouse.

Speaking with a friend afterwards we were certainly underdogs according to the bookies so well done to anyone who had a bet on us that day!

Whilst the players no doubt have it toughest over the Easter period, it's a demanding time for others too.

Our backroom staff are a dedicated and hard-working group who week in week out go above and beyond what is asked of them not to mention a good proportion of our backroom includes volunteers too.

Most will know several of the backroom from assistant coaches Keith & Ged to obviously Tubbs himself but I think it's only right their efforts are recognised.

Richard Pepper who has been with the club since day one continues to assist Tubby with in-play stats, from completion rates, penalties, timekeeping and so on.

His knack to work out percentages on these is pretty good, it's like watching Rain Man at

work. I've stepped in during our trips to Toulouse and can say first hand how hard it is!

Then we have Brian and his assistant Nathan who as Kit Men do so many jobs that go unnoticed and before I became involved with rugby league would never of thought of but they are the first to enter and last to leave the changing rooms ensuring everything is prepared and then ready to go again for the next match.

Simon (see the next page for his latest article) has been a great asset for the past two seasons and I think the fitness levels the players have got to this year shows the hard work they and him (along with Alex and his other interns) did the off-season and continue to do and is vital to the great form we've been in.

Physio Mick is fantastic (even though he is a Man City fan) and has worked with Tubby for many years, Mark is a difficult man to please at the best of times and Mick always keeps a cool and calm head with him.

Steph and Amy then work on rehabilitation and nutrition respectively and work with the players on match days, with massages pre-match.

It can be demanding and challenging environment in the sheds on a game day and both are great to have at the club along with our Doctor Jimmy Gray. He certainly had a difficult start to the year with Will Hope's injury after 30 seconds in the opening match!

I sit writing this hoping I've not missed anyone out but in the upcoming programmes each one of our backroom will be writing about their experiences and time with the Eagles and what their duties entail so be sure to continue to buy your copy of Red & Gold!

As always, enjoy the game!

General Manager - Liam Claffey



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# STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

**For the last home game against Toulouse I discussed the plan for how we would manage recovery and keep the players in as good a shape as possible ready to play Rochdale.**

This weekend I thought it would be good to visit some general recovery methods that the players use post game.

Firstly, a very common recovery method is the ice bath.

Not massively popular with our guys just yet but as we hit the warmer weather we may see more wanting to jump in the icy water to help flush the muscles and reduce recovery time.

Although the ice baths themselves might not be that popular, ice bags are a little more common, particularly for those that get sore joints after a game and a couple of bags on your knees can help reduce any issues.

Another method is the compression garment. One or two of our players will use this, wearing a pair of compression leggings to help promote blood flow, increase recovery and keep the muscles supported.

Stretching is an interesting recovery methodology. Some players feel better for stretching straight after a game or even a training session, but evidence these days is pointing less towards the benefits of this and more towards how you treat your body over the following 24 hours, i.e. stretching, foam rolling, massage and active recovery the following day and coupling this up good nutrition to refuel and rebuild broken down tissue.

It has to be said, probably the favourite recovery protocol post game for the players is to get on the beers.

Not necessarily ideal and not what we would suggest but there's always got to be a little give and take!



Outside of good nutrition and refuelling, recovery tends to be a very personal thing. What works best for one doesn't necessarily work best for another so there isn't a one size fits all. So everyone is encouraged to do what gets the best results for them."

Not sure why it didn't come through before, probably me being a spaz but here it is anyway!

Player Performance Manager - Simon Vardy







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# TODAY'S OPPOSITION

**Halifax arrive this afternoon at the Olympic Legacy Park after what they will probably themselves describe as an indifferent season to date.**

The past few seasons, the men from the MBI Shay Stadium have had reached the top four of the then Super 8 Qualifiers, a fantastic feat which in turn resulted in extra funding.

Credit to the club, as well as the first team, they carry out excellent community work and have a host of teams from a reserve side to Women's and Wheelchairs squad which for a part-time Championship side is a great feat.

With just over a third of the 2019 Betfred Championship gone, Fax have played 11 games, winning five and losing six, sitting in 8th place just behind Featherstone in 7th on points difference.

Whilst the Eagles got back-to-back victories over the Easter weekend, it was two defeats for Richard Marshall's side.

An agonising 26-33 defeat at home to Bradford Bulls before a comfortable 52-4 victory for Toulouse down in the South of France which after Friday's loss for Olympique and coupled with the travel to Toulouse was

always going to be a difficult proposition for Halifax.

The reverse of the Bulls score occurred in the second round of the Championship which after an opening round loss to Widnes, Fax overcame Leigh by 33-26.

Two-point victories have come against both Swinton (18-16) and Batley (20-18) along with comfortable victories against Rochdale and Dewsbury whilst their other defeats occurred to teams higher in the table as they dropped points against high flyers Toronto, York & their rivals Featherstone.

Despite an indifferent season, the club could go far in this year's Coral Challenge Cup after they put Hunslet to the sword followed by a shock victory at London Broncos prior to the Easter weekend.

Dewsbury is their next opponent and will hope to over come the Rams to secure a big name in the following round.

Fax will looked to bounce back after their tough Easter this afternoon and live on the OurLeague App, they will be difficult opponents for Matt James and the rest of the Eagles today.



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# THREE TO WATCH

## Quentin Laulu-Togagae

Probably the easiest pick of the Halifax squad is QLT. With 218 appearances and 183 tries for the Eagles over a six-year period, he was and probably to many still is a fans favourite and will likely be a future Hall of Famer at the club.

Q's journey since his time in South Yorkshire has saw him head to Toronto, then to Halifax followed by a short but successful nine games in Super League with Castleford before his return to The Shay.

His attacking flair and sublime skill with the ball means he is a constant threat in attack and controls his team's defensive line in the full back position. He'll be looking for a big game against his old club this afternoon.



## James Woodburn Hall

Londoner Woodburn-Hall has been in great form of late and the 24-year-old is solidifying his position in the halves at Halifax. The scrum half recently reverted to the stand-off position following injury to talisman and playmaker Scott Murrell and has look comfortable in that role also.

The former Broncos player who made nine Super League appearances as a teenager for them, then embraced the University Rugby League helping the University of Leeds to their first BUCS Championship semi-final back in 2017 and following this returned to the professional game in style with Halifax.

Pace to burn and a old head on young shoulders, one to watch today.

## Kevin Larroyer

Turning to the forwards, French international Larroyer has had a difficult route in his career to date; being released by Hull KR following their relegation in 2016 and then left Leigh last year following the difficulties they faced financially.

His career has saw him land at The Shay, one of their big signings ahead of 2019 and has made 11 appearances so far for Richard Marshall this year. He has yet to cross the white wash but he is a dominant, tough forward with a rich experience to boot. He will be up against solid forwards in the Eagles but will aim to put a marker down against the likes of Farrell, James & Knowles today.





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# 18

# James Glover



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# JAMES GLOVER

LC: You must be delighted with two wins from two over Easter?

JG: Yeah we're delighted, obviously we're part-time players, so it's tough for people working in-between and things like that, so yeah, really happy.

LC: You seem to have developed a good relationship with Ryan Millar, how have you found playing with Ryan?

JG: Yeah, me and Ryan get on. We're both still fairly young; we're both still learning each other's game, I think we've both certainly got off to a good start and hopefully we can keep improving as the season goes on.

LC: Some might of seen Friday night's game as a bit of a shock against the full-time Toulouse side, how determined is the squad to keep going so results like this can keep happening?

JG: We're just taking it one game at a time, it was a massive scalp for us and a lot of people will have looked at that as a bit of a shock but within the camp we're fairly confident that on our day we can go toe to toe with anyone in this league.

LC: As you've said Easter is a tough period for you guys, it's allowed some of the younger players to feature. How impressed have you been with the younger guys?

JG: We're a squad at the end of the day, we're not just a team. We train together and we play together. Some of the young lads really stood up on Friday and Monday. Tubbs as brought them in for obvious reasons, he knows they can play, I guess it's just about fitting in and waiting for your opportunity to come.

LC: The Eagles scored nearly 100 points



over the two games; it must be great to play in such an attack-minded team?

JG: Yeah it is, I played at Dewsbury for the past couple of years and we've not really put a lot of teams to bed, so to speak. (At Sheffield) We've got fast players, quick thinking players and like I said we're not fully there yet. But to put nearly 100 points on two teams in four days speaks volumes of our attacking side. But you've got to look at our defensive side as well; we we're camped on our line for the first 20-30 minutes of the game at Rochdale, our mental attitude pulled us through. But like I said, we've got the players to finish the moves.



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# JAMES GLOVER

LC: It was a big effort on Friday night, and some teams could've taken their foot off the gas against a team lower in the table like Rochdale. How important was it to follow Friday up with another big win?

JG: Tubbs spoke about Friday's game meaning nothing if we didn't back it up with another good performance and a solid win at Rochdale.

We were all switched on, credit to Rochdale; they did frustrate us in that first 20-30 minutes, it was a bit frantic but after that we all calmed down and like I said we've got the players to execute and people who've got the skill to beat anyone on our day.

LC: The tough games keep coming. This Sunday against Halifax, what are you expecting from them?

JG: They've had a tough start to the season have Halifax, especially the Easter period.

They had a narrow loss to Bradford at home and they had a short turnaround and had to fly to France for Monday. We'll do our homework, we know they'll come out firing, we know it'll be a tough test, you can't take anyone lightly in this league.

**James Glover is sponsored by Brenda Betts and in memory of George Betts and was speaking to Lewis Coleman.**





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# GETTING TO KNOW

## Last To Buy A Round?

*"I'm going to have to go with Thacks [Anthony Thackeray] on this. We were picking players up from Tankersley and the coffee machine was broke, so we text Thacks to say get us a coffee, he didn't bother getting us one and told us to [swear word] off!"*

## Rugby League Idol?

*Easy. Greg Inglis.*

## Come Dine with Me – Meal you'd make & three guest?

*Guests I'd invite Will Ferrell and David Beckham, he seems a cool guy and I'd need something nice to look at so... Jennifer Aniston.*

*For the Food, Nachos for starters, a nice fillet steak with trimming then a warm chocolate fudge cake and ice cream!*

## Snapchat or Instagram?

*I take a good selfie so I'll go with Snapchat.*



**James Glover**

**Number: 18**  
**Position: Centre**

**Height: 6ft 0"**  
**Weight: 95kg**  
**Twitter:**

**@JamesGlover61**

## Nickname?

*"Just Glover, when I was growing up I used to get called Ginner for obvious reasons, but just Gloves"*

## Worst Dressed?

*"It's out of two people. Ollie Davies, who's just a very boring man, or Faz, I'm going to have to say Faz [Joel Farrell] sadly!"*

## Best Trainer?

*I can't say myself can I? I'd probably say Ryan Millar. He clips his own videos up, he goes to the coaching staff every week to better himself, so I'd probably go for Ryan Millar for that."*

## Xbox One or PS4?

*PS4, all day, every day.*



# TODAY'S TEAMS



## SHEFFIELD EAGLES

	T	G	DG
1. Josh Guzdek	●	●	●
2. Ryan Millar	●	●	●
4. Jason Crookes	●	●	●
5. Ben Blackmore	●	●	●
6. Pat Walker	●	●	●
7. Anthony Thackeray	●	●	●
9. James Davey	●	●	●
10. Matt James	●	●	●
11. Brad Knowles	●	●	●
12. Joel Farrell	●	●	●
13. Aaron Brown	●	●	●
14. Greg Burns	●	●	●
15. Oliver Davies	●	●	●
16. Corey Makelim	●	●	●
17. Shaun Pick	●	●	●
18. James Glover	●	●	●
19. Sonny Esselmont	●	●	●
21. Blake Broadbent	●	●	●
22. Paddy Burns	●	●	●
23. Rory Dixon	●	●	●
25. Lewis Taylor	●	●	●
26. Jaslin Landu	●	●	●
Pat Moran	●	●	●
Nathan Mason	●	●	●

Referee: B. Pearson

Touch Judges: S. Ellis & A. Gill

## HALIFAX RLFC

T G DG

●	●	●	1. Quentin Laulu-Togaga'e
●	●	●	2. Shaun Robinson
●	●	●	3. Steve Tyrer
●	●	●	4. Chester Butler
●	●	●	5. Will Sharp
●	●	●	6. Scott Murrell (c)
●	●	●	7. Ben Johnston
●	●	●	8. Dan Fleming
●	●	●	9. Ben Kaye
●	●	●	10. Jacob Fairbank
●	●	●	11. Shane Grady
●	●	●	12. Ed Barber
●	●	●	13. Simon Grix
●	●	●	14. Brandon Moore
●	●	●	15. Harry Kid
●	●	●	16. Kevin Larroyer
●	●	●	17. Ben Kavanagh
●	●	●	18. Elliot Morris
●	●	●	19. Ben White
●	●	●	20. James Saltonstall
●	●	●	21. Conor McGrath
●	●	●	22. Connor Davies
●	●	●	23. James Woodburn-Hall
●	●	●	24. Curtis Davies



Match Comissioner: P. Hewitt

Reserve Referee: J. Bose Time Keeper: G. Kershaw

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# TOULOUSE OLYMPIQUE

## 19/04/19

**Anthony Thackeray's sublime hat-trick inspired Sheffield Eagles to a 44-16 victory over highly-fancied Toulouse at the OLP.**

Thackeray stole the show with a high-quality effort, scoring two tries from deep inside his own half, as Mark Aston's side returned to winning ways against the full-time French outfit.

Toulouse, expected to challenge Toronto for top spot, were out-played from start-to-finish as man-of-the-match Thackeray lead the way as a clinical Eagles moved level on points with their opponents.

The Eagles dominated the first-half, and opened their account when skipper Matty James successfully barrelled over the whitewash backwards before grounding. Pat Walker slotted the extras.

Five minutes later, with the Eagles defending their own line, Thackeray intercepted a stray Toulouse pass before sprinting 80 metres to dive over in front of the sticks. Walker converted.

The French side had plenty of useful field position, but handling errors and a stout home defence kept them at bay.

Aston's side were more clinical and they were over again when Sonny Esslemont barged onto a short pass from Greg Burns before expertly planting the ball over the line one-handed on the stretch. Walker converted. The lead was extended to 20 points when Walker slotted a penalty after Esslemont was hit with a high shot.

Toulouse nicked a try just before the hooter when Mattheiu Jussaume dived over and



Mark Kheirallah nailed the extras from out wide.

The Eagles kept their composure at the start of the second stanza, and increased their advantage when Thackeray showed his class with a clever show-and-go, finding the gap in the Toulouse line to glide over for a converted try. Toulouse stayed in the contest, and after Tony Maurel saw his try chalked off, they were back in the game moments later through a William Barthau converted score.

The Eagles didn't crumble, but instead pushed the accelerator. Poor handling again by the visitors saw Ryan Millar pick up a loose ball before a 60 metre sprint ended in a converted try.

The game was then killed off when another Thackeray interception saw the half-back complete a hat-trick, winning another 80 metre foot race to dive over in the corner. Walker kicked the extras.

Paul Macron's try gave the visitors a consolation, but it was the Eagles who had the last word through another James try, converted again by Walker.



# MATCH REPORT

**SHEFFIELD  
EAGLES**

**44-16**

**TOULOUSE  
OLYMPIQUE**

1. Josh Guzdek
2. Ryan Millar
18. James Glover
13. Aaron Brown
5. Ben Blackmore
6. Pat Walker
7. Anthony Thackeray
8. Pat Moran
14. Greg Burns
23. Rory Dixon
12. Joel Farrell
15. Olly Davies
10. Matt James

## INTERCHANGE

21. Blake Broadbent
16. Corey Makelim
23. Rory Dixon
17. Shaun Pick



1. Mark Kheirallah
5. Paul Macron
25. Mattheiu Jussaume
3. Bastien Ader
2. Tony Maurel
30. William Barthau
7. Stan Robin
22. Brendan Santi
14. Dean Parata
18. Clement Boyer
11. Constantine Mika
12. Rhys Curran
9. Anthony Marion

## INTERCHANGE

19. James Bell
17. Paterika Vaivai
16. Tyla Hepi
21. Jordan Dezaria



# ROCHDALE HORNETS

## 22/04/19

**Sheffield Eagles made it back-to-back wins over the Easter period after a 52-16 victory over basement club Rochdale Hornets.**

Returning dual-registration ace Ben Hellewell bagged a brace of tries as Mark Aston's side recorded a comfortable victory, with the Eagles backing up their sensational success against Toulouse on Good Friday, with another victory at Spotland.

The Eagles continue to defy the odds by maintaining third position in the Betfred Championship, after racking up 50 plus points for the second time this season.

Aston freshened up his side with the inclusion of Hellwell, whilst James Davey and Brad Knowles were also restored after they missed out against Toulouse as a precaution.

Whilst it turned into a comfortable afternoon for the Eagles, it certainly didn't begin that way as the hosts enjoyed the better of the opening exchanges. Carl Forster's try, converted by Dan Abram, had the Hornets in front, but the Eagles were quick to respond.

The home side knocked on from Pat Walker's restart, eventually leading to a try for Hellewell, but Walker couldn't convert.

Aston's side initially struggled to stamp their authority on the game, but just before the half-hour mark a flowing move was finished by James Glover, and Walker converted.

That was almost the beginning of the end of Rochdale's resistance as Ben Blackmore sprinted clear five minutes before the break for a third try, again converted by Walker.

Walker himself was over for a converted try before the break, as Aston's side took full



command of proceedings.

The match was virtually sealed 10 minutes into the second-half, when after having a try disallowed, the Eagles were over again shortly after with Blackmore showing his man a clean pair of heels for his second converted score.

Not to be outdone, Hellewell matched Blackmore with his second try just four minutes later, again converted, as the visitors threatened to run riot.

On 64 minutes the Eagles eased past 40 points as Aaron Brown made the hard yards for Glover to cross for his second try, with Walker adding the extras.

Brandon Wood hit back with converted try for the hosts, but the Eagles were in again soon after. Converted tries from Pat Moran and Sonny Esslemont added the gloss, with Ben Moores having the last word with a try on the hooter for the hosts.

# MATCH REPORT

**ROCHDALE  
HORNETS**

**16-52**

**SHEFFIELD  
EAGLES**

- 1. Declan Kay
- 19. Jack Johnson
- 4. Ben Morris
- 12. Ellis Gillam
- 24. Brandon Wood
- 9. Ben Moores
- 7. Dan Abram
- 11. Lee Mitchell
- 6. Scott Moore
- 21. Jack Cottingham
- 16. Michael Weldon
- 27. Luis Johnson
- 10. Carl Forster

## INTERCHANGE

- 17. Liam Carberry
- 3. Setareki Talatoka
- 22. Callum Wood
- 18. Ryan Millington



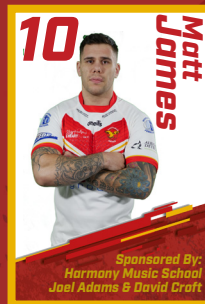
- 1. Josh Guzdek
- 2. Ryan Millar
- 18. James Glover
- 28. James Hellewell
- 5. Ben Blackmore
- 6. Pat Walker
- 7. Anthony Thackeray
- 8. Patrick Moran
- 14. Greg Burns
- 11. Bradley Knowles
- 12. Joel Farrell
- 15. Olly Davies
- 13. Aaron Brown

## INTERCHANGE

- 9. James Davey
- 21. Blake Broadbent
- 10. Matt James
- 19. Sonny Esslemont



# PLAYER PROFILES



**15** **Oliver Davies**



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**16** **Corey Makelim**



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**17** **Shaun Pick**



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**18** **James Glover**



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**19** **Sonny Esslemont**



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**21** **Blake Broadbent**



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Martyn Connelly

**22** **Paddy Burns**



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**HEAD COACH** **Mark Aston**



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# VIEW FROM THE TERRACE



**The Eagles claimed two convincing victories over the Easter period and they will be looking to replicate that form against Halifax today.**

Mark Aston's men return to the Olympic Legacy Park after a professional performance against Rochdale Hornets last time out. Despite a slow start, the Eagles soon turned on the style and braces from Ben Hellewell, James Glover and Ben Blackmore helped Sheffield to the two competition points.

The win rounded off a superb Easter period following a massive performance against Toulouse Olympique on Good Friday. Many had the Frenchmen down as favourites for the tie, especially when you consider their expansive play and the OLP's fast surface.

However, they were second best throughout as the Eagles put out a statement of intent to the rest of the league by beating the full-timers.

Toulouse bounced back at the first time of asking with a Easter Monday triumph over the Eagles' opponents today, Halifax.

It's been a far from ideal campaign for the

West Yorkshire club so far but you know if they keep within a few points of the playoffs, their late-season form may come to the rescue.

The talent is there for Halifax to flourish and with the new signing of Adam Tangata, albeit currently injured, Richard Marshall's men have the ammunition to get back to the heights they have been used to in recent years.

From the Eagles' point of view, it's all about keeping their eye on the ball ahead of a few tough weeks. Anybody can beat anybody in the Championship and a few losses in a row can see us slip down the league.

But if we keep playing with the same intensity as we did over the Easter period, there's nothing to say we can't go from strength to strength and keep up the form.

One thing is for sure, the Eagles faithful will be behind the lads 100% of the way! Come on Eagles!



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# CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

**One of the things I have become more and more annoyed about is my diary. I know! 'What has your diary ever done to you Baz?'**

The answer is 'nothing' apart from causing me to get stressed by the feeling that my diary dictates what I do and when. I hate looking at it last thing at night to see what I am doing the next day, and also on Sunday evenings to see what's in store for that week.

I'd love to not have a diary but can't get away with that, and sadly I am one of those people who needs a hard-back diary to write all my appointments and to do lists in as I can't get away with using my phone to do this..

I know to most this will make me a sad person but I'm just being honest. Sometimes I can get so bogged down with what I am doing next week I forget to enjoy the current moment. Recently Linda & I were out in the Peaks just sat enjoying the beautiful scenery; enjoying the moment. Perfect! I realise that worrying about tomorrow is not going to help me with enjoying and fulfilling what I have to do today.

'The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today' H. Jackson Brown, Jr

Sadly last Sunday innocent people who were enjoying the moment with families and friends in Churches and Hotels were killed by terrorist attacks. Innocent children and adults killed in the blink of an eye; an event which changes the lives of families, communities and a nation forever.

Watching the news, seeing the devastation caused and the Sri Lankans mourning the loss of their loved ones reiterated to me how cruel and evil people can be. It

also reminded me how quickly life can be taken away from us, planned or not planned, expected or unexpected.

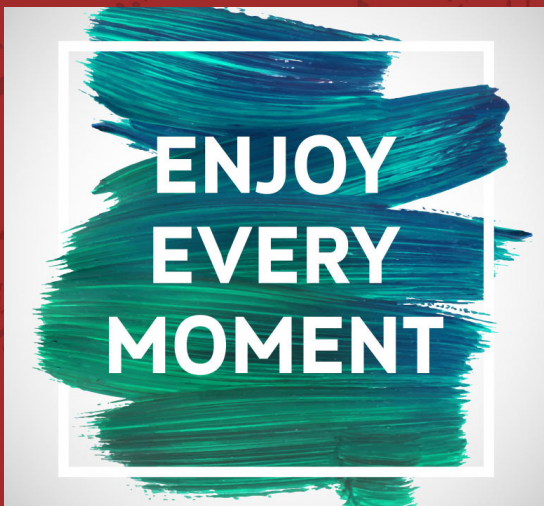
Taking someone's life, whatever their religious, political or personal beliefs are, can never be acceptable. Life is sacred and precious; everyone should have the opportunity to live life to the full without worrying about tomorrow or even today. Seeing and reading about the atrocities around the world can easily make me angry and lead to hate.

However, I have to keep on reminding myself to choose love and not hatred: to keep on trying to make a difference in the part of the world where I exist.

'The way to love anything is to realise that it may be lost' Gilbert K. Chesterton

Enjoy the day and enjoy the moments – every single one of them.

Club Chaplain - Baz Gacoyne







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# A WORD FROM THE CEO

The Eagles return to I hope you are all enjoying watching the team this season as much as I am, Tubbs has put together a good squad & the performances so far are pretty impressive. Which one has been the best ?

To help the on field product progress, we need to have a successful off field operation, where I'm pleased to see Mark Hannigan having a positive impact in his role as Commercial Director.

What do the rest of us do you might ask?

Whatever is necessary or required at the time is the correct answer, & most of it revolves around trying to raise funds, via investment or sponsorship, & dealing with suppliers to ensure we get the very best terms to keep the club solvent, forward looking & viable.

We are all aware of the many Rugby League Clubs under financial pressure, Widnes is a recent unfortunate example, & there are others, like Sheffield Eagles too who need to budget very carefully.

Given our recent nomadic existence, the return to Sheffield & the associated costs we have been forced to burden, our own finances are in a difficult position.

Some of you will be aware that we are negotiating with the council for an interest free loan however, this is still some way off being a reality!

I was very fortunate recently to be talking



with a loyal Eagles fan, & we discussed the Club's finances & help we need, & a very generous offer was forthcoming from this supporter.

This got me thinking, if there were another 3 or 4 Eagles supporters who feel they could really help the club, as the Widnes supporters have, by way of a loan, or the purchase of some shares, I would love to hear from you. You could make a massive & positive contribution to the Club & our future, & gain a bit more involvement, should you wish!

If you feel this is a cry for help, then it probably is. I will look forward to hearing from anyone who is able, & willing to help.

Thanks in advance.

CEO - Andy Tyers

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